

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of:

Keith Sinclair, et al.

Serial No.: 10/714,158

Filed on: November 13, 2003

) Confirmation No.: 2371  
)  
) Examiner: Aaron Strange  
)  
) Group Art Unit No.: 2453  
)

For: RULE-BASED NETWORK MANAGEMENT APPROACHES

Via EFS  
Commissioner for Patents  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Sir:

Enclosed is a copy of Information Disclosure Citation Form PTO-1449 together with copies of the documents cited on that form, if needed. It is respectfully requested that the cited documents be considered and that the enclosed Information Disclosure Citation Form PTO-1449 be initialed by the Examiner to indicate such consideration and a copy thereof returned to applicant(s).

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97, the submission of this Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made and is not to be construed as an admission that the information cited in this statement is material to patentability.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97, this Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted under one of the following (as indicated by an "X" to the left of the appropriate paragraph):

\_\_\_\_\_ 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b).

  X   37 C.F.R. §1.97(c). If so, then this Information Disclosure Statement includes one of the following:

\_\_\_\_\_ A statement pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)

\_\_\_\_\_ 1.97(e)(1) The undersigned hereby states that each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart

foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement.

\_\_\_\_ 1.97(e)(2) The undersigned hereby states that no item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement.

\_\_\_\_ X A check for \$180.00 for the fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

\_\_\_\_ 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d). If so, then this Information Disclosure Statement includes the following:

\_\_\_\_ A statement pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)

\_\_\_\_ 1.97(e)(1) The undersigned hereby states that each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement; OR

\_\_\_\_ 1.97(e)(2) The undersigned hereby states that no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement.

AND

\_\_\_\_ A check for \$180.00 for the fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i) for submission of the Information Disclosure Statement.

\_\_\_\_ 37 C.F.R. §1.97(i). Wherein applicants are submitting references before the grant of a patent to be placed in the file but not considered by the Patent office.

- (1) Accordingly, copies of the references as listed on the attached Form PTO 1449 are submitted herewith for placement in the file. No certification or fees are deemed necessary.

\_\_\_\_\_ The Examiner is hereby notified that the present application is related to the following related application(s):

**DISCLOSURE OF RELATED APPLICATIONS**

| U.S. Application/ Pat. No. | File Date | Atty. Docket. No. |
|----------------------------|-----------|-------------------|
|                            |           |                   |
|                            |           |                   |

The related application(s) may contain subject matter that is related to the subject matter of the present application. The related application(s) may contain one or more claims that may be substantially similar to one or more claims in the present application, and those claims may have been rejected in the related application(s). Therefore, the Examiner is encouraged to review the file history(ies) of the related application(s) as some of the information contained therein may be material to the examination of the present application.

  X   The Examiner is hereby notified that for the following related application(s) an Office Action has been received as indicated below:

**DISCLOSURE OF OFFICE ACTIONS**

| U.S. Application/<br>Pat. No. | File Date  | Office Action<br>Mailing Date | Atty. Docket. No. |
|-------------------------------|------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| 10/899,531                    | 07/26/2004 | 02/18/2009                    | 50325-0859        |
|                               |            |                               |                   |
|                               |            |                               |                   |

The related application(s) may contain one or more claims that may be substantially similar to one or more claims in the present application, and those claims may have been rejected in the related application(s). Therefore, the Examiner is encouraged to review the file history(ies) of the related application(s) as some of the information contained therein may be material to the examination of the present application.

Throughout the pendency of this application, please charge any additional fees, including any required extension of time fees, and credit all overpayments to deposit account 50-1302.

Respectfully submitted,

HICKMAN PALERMO TRUONG & BECKER LLP

Dated: May 6, 2009

/Christopher J. Palermo#42056/

Christopher J. Palermo

Reg. No. 42,056

2055 Gateway Place, Suite 550  
San Jose, California 95110-1089  
Telephone: (408) 414-1080  
Facsimile: (408) 414-1076